**Dr Chris Vas – Biography**

With 20 years of experience across Australasia and NZ spanning business, government and academia, Dr Christopher Vas is the General Manager of the Food Innovation Precinct Western Australia.

FIPWA is an agri-food ecosystem comprising a research and development hub, an innovation centre, and a food technology facility. The precinct is funded with $21M from the Australian Government and $40M+ by the Western Australia State Government as part of the development of the Peel Business Park.

The Precinct has also been funded an additional $3.8M by the WA State Government and the Shire of Murray to establish an Enterprise Support Program for the agri-food sector.

Dr Vas sits on the Australia Malaysia Business Chamber (Western Australia) as Committee Member and is on the Boards of the Pinjarra Secondary High School and Future Food Network.

Previously, Dr Vas was Director of Industry Programs at the University of Canterbury and Founding Director of the Singapore Centre for Research in Productivity, Innovation and  Technology (SCRIPT) in Singapore.  He was also Chief Investigator of the Smart Urban Farm Factories project and Commissioner and Executive Director of the Second Murdoch Commission on Food Security, Trade and Regional Partnerships.